

HOUSE BILL 10

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F1

1999 Regular Session  
9lr0867

(PRE-FILED)

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By: **Delegates Kopp, Taylor, Hixson, Rawlings, Arnick, Busch, Dewberry, Doory, Guns, Harrison, Howard, Hurson, Menes, Montague, Owings, Rosenberg, Vallario, and Wood Wood, W. Baker, Benson, Bartlett, Bozman, Brown, Cadden, Carlson, C. Davis, Conroy, Cryor, Donoghue, Finifter, Franchot, Frush, Fulton, Giannetti, Healey, Hecht, Heller, Hubers, James, A. Jones, V. Jones, Kirk, Klausmeier, Krysiak, Love, Marriott, McKee, Moe, Patterson, Petzold, Pitkin, Rzepkowski, Rosso, Rudolph, Shriver, Slade, Sophocleus, and Turner**

Requested: November 20, 1998  
Introduced and read first time: January 13, 1999  
Assigned to: Ways and Means

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
House action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 2, 1999

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CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and  
4 Excellence; requiring the Commission to make recommendations to ensure the  
5 adequacy of funding and equity in funding for students in public schools  
6 statewide, to ensure excellence in school systems and student performance, to  
7 provide for a transition as current educational funding initiatives abrogate, ~~and~~  
8 to analyze whether the current funding procedures should be retained or certain  
9 new procedures adopted, and to ensure that local property tax policies do not  
10 affect the equitable allocation of education funding for students in public schools  
11 statewide; providing for the appointment of members of the Commission;  
12 providing for the staffing for the Commission; requiring an interim and a final  
13 report by certain dates; and generally relating to the Commission on Education  
14 Finance, Equity, and Excellence.

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
16 MARYLAND, That:

17 (a) There is a Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence.

1 (b) The Commission shall review the current education financing formulas  
2 and accountability measures and make recommendations for:

3 (1) ensuring the adequacy of funding for students in public schools  
4 statewide, including early childhood education programs;

5 (2) ensuring equity in funding for students in public schools statewide;

6 (3) ensuring excellence in school systems and student performance  
7 statewide;

8 (4) providing for a smooth transition as current educational funding  
9 initiatives abrogate; ~~and~~

10 (5) analyzing whether it is more effective to provide additional State aid  
11 in the form of targeted grants or by increasing funding through the base formula; and

12 (6) ensuring that local property tax policies do not affect the equitable  
13 allocation of funding for students in public schools statewide.

14 (c) The Commission shall be composed of ~~23~~ 25 members as follows:

15 (1) a chairman appointed by the Governor;

16 (2) the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House;

17 ~~(2)~~ (3) two members of the Senate Economic and Environmental  
18 Affairs Committee appointed by the President of the Senate;

19 ~~(3)~~ (4) two members of the Senate Budget and Taxation Committee  
20 appointed by the President of the Senate;

21 ~~(4)~~ (5) two members of the House Ways and Means Committee  
22 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

23 ~~(5)~~ (6) two members of the House Appropriations Committee  
24 appointed by the Speaker of the House;

25 ~~(6)~~ (7) the State Superintendent of Schools;

26 ~~(7)~~ (8) the Secretary of Budget and Management;

27 ~~(8)~~ (9) ~~the President~~ a member of the State Board of Education;

28 ~~(9)~~ (10) a representative of the Maryland State Teachers Association  
29 appointed by the Governor;

30 ~~(10)~~ (11) a representative of the Baltimore Teachers Union appointed by  
31 the Governor;

1           ~~(11)~~    (12)    a local board of education ~~president~~ member appointed by the  
2 Governor;

3           ~~(12)~~    (13)    a school superintendent appointed by the Governor;

4           (14)    a chief financial officer of a local school system appointed by the  
5 Governor;

6           ~~(13)~~    (15)    ~~a representative~~ two representatives of the Maryland  
7 Association of Counties, one representing an urban county and one representing a  
8 rural county, appointed by the Governor;

9           ~~(14)~~    (16)    the Chancellor of the University System of Maryland;

10          ~~(15)~~    (17)    the president of a private college located in the State appointed  
11 by the Governor;

12          ~~(16)~~    (18)    ~~two a chief executive officers~~ officer of companies a company  
13 operating in the State, appointed by the Governor; and

14          ~~(17)~~    (19)    ~~two a chief financial officers~~ officer of companies a company  
15 operating in the State, nominated by the Maryland Business Round Table and  
16 appointed by the Governor.

17       (d)       To the extent practicable, the Governor shall attempt to ensure regional,  
18 ethnic, economic, and gender diversity on the Commission.

19       (e)       The State Board of Education and the Department of Legislative Services  
20 shall provide staff support to the Commission.

21       (f)       (1)       The Commission shall provide an interim report of its findings and  
22 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
23 Government Article, to the General Assembly by January 1, 2000.

24       (2)       The Commission shall provide a final report of its findings and  
25 recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2-1246 of the State  
26 Government Article, to the General Assembly by October 15, 2000.

27       SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take  
28 effect June 1, 1999.